

RE: 10:30am: US Assistance Meeting

From: "Nguyen, Suzanna" <suzanna.nguyen@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
To: "Ossowski, John" <john.ossowski@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>, "Gallivan, Ted" <ted.gallivan@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: "Voghel, Carmen" <carmen.voghel@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>, "Powers, Donna" <donna.powers@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>, "Johnston, Jag" <jag.johnston@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>, "Prakash, Karun" <karun.prakash@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Date: Fri, 11 Feb 2022 15:32:26 +0000
Attachments: E-Binder Feb 11.pdf (1.33 MB)

Latest on tow truck coordination:

- The CBSA was advised by law enforcement partners (RCMP at Coutts, Windsor Police at the Windsor Ambassador Bridge), that local tow truck operators have faced intimidation by protestors, particularly from the trucking community. As a result, the Canadian law enforcement agencies are unable to secure sufficient assistance from towing operators to assist in removing personal vehicles, tractor trailers, farm implements and other heavy equipment from protest blockade sites.
- The RCMP had sought the assistance of US towing companies based in Montana to provide assistance in the removal of vehicles north of Coutts AB. The CBSA was engaged in the discussions and has confirmed that the CBSA would permit the entry of foreign tow truck operators and their equipment to assist the RCMP due to the ongoing safety and security situation. The operators would be granted entry to Canada without a work permit to their role in supporting the emergency services engaged in disrupting the protest activity.
- On the evening of February 9, 2022, the State of Michigan had made it known to the Government of Canada that tow truck operators in Southeastern Michigan were available to provide support to the Windsor Police Service for any enforcement operation in the area of the Windsor Ambassador Bridge. The CBSA provided this information to the Windsor Police Service as well as the Mayor of the City of Windsor to incorporate this capacity into their operational planning. The CBSA remains able to facilitate the entry of foreign tow truck operators and their equipment to assist with dismantling the protest blockade that is currently impeding the Ambassador Bridge. On February 10, 2022, the CBSA has learned from the Windsor Police Service that the State of Michigan did not have towing operators available to assist in Canada. A request through PCO was initiated to re-engage with the Governor of Michigan to reconfirm her earlier commitment. (EVP is engaging PCO).

From: Nguyen, Suzanna
Sent: February 11, 2022 10:23 AM
To: Ossowski, John <John.Ossowski@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Ted Gallivan (Ted.Gallivan@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca) <Ted.Gallivan@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
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Latest version of SitRep to come ASAP

A couple of bullets relating to engagement with CBP and DHS:

- Two senior level briefings with US CBP (Feb 8) and a PS-DHS (Feb 10) were conducted to provide situational awareness of the ongoing and planned protests – there is another briefing with CBP leadership today. Attached are two readouts prepared by Natasha Manji providing details of each meeting.
- At the regional level, Regional Directors General and District Directors have maintained direct contact with US CBP Office of Field Operations Directors of Field Office and US CBP Port Directors to coordinate business continuity planning and sharing information relating to ongoing and planned protest activities. US CBP at the port level have been included in interagency planning for planned protests at Fort Erie/Buffalo scheduled for February 12.